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ABSTRACT

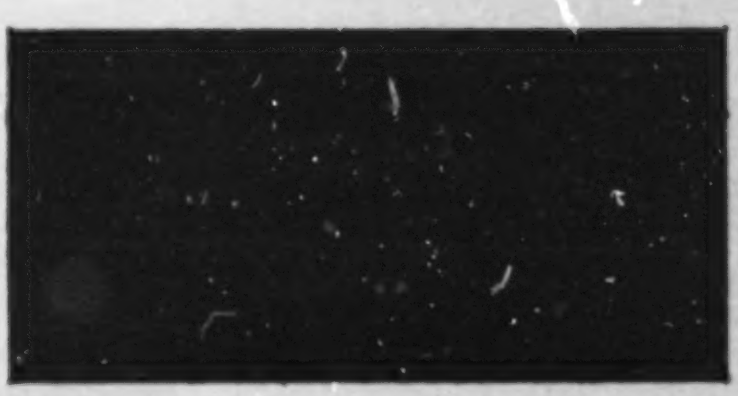
The Post-High Schoo. Plans Survey has been conducted annually by the Office of High School Relations of the State System of Higher Education since 1956. The survey is distributed to high school seniors in all high schools in the state each fall, and the completed questionnaires are returned directly to the Educational Coordinating Council for processing. In 1972, approximately 28,000 Oregon high school students returned completed questionnaires, while the 1973 survey includes about 26,000 respondents. These samples represent 88 percent and 79 percent of all high school seniors in the state for each of the two respective years. This report presents a summary of the major findings of the 1973 surveys. Particular emphasis is placed on shifts in student attitudes since the 1972 Post-High School Plans Survey. A number of tables showing the results of the 1973 survey are provided in an appendix. The questionnaire is also reproduced for reference. (Author/PG)

ED 094662

OREGON

Educational Coordinating Council

A STAFF REPORT



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1973 POST-HIGH SCHOOL PLANS STUDY

PREPARED BY

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AUGUST 1973

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1973 POST-HIGH SCHOOL PLANS SURVEY

INTRODUCTION

The Post-High School Plans Survey has been conducted annually by the Office of High School Relations of the State System of Higher Education since 1956. Since 1971, the survey has been conducted on a cooperative basis by the Educational Coordinating Council and the Office of High School Relations. The survey is distributed to high school seniors in all high schools in the State each fall, and the completed questionnaires are returned directly to the Educational Coordinating Council for processing. In 1972, approximately 28,000 Oregon high school students returned completed questionnaires, while the 1973 survey includes about 26,000 respondents. These samples represent 88 percent and 79 percent of all high school seniors in the State for each of the two respective years.

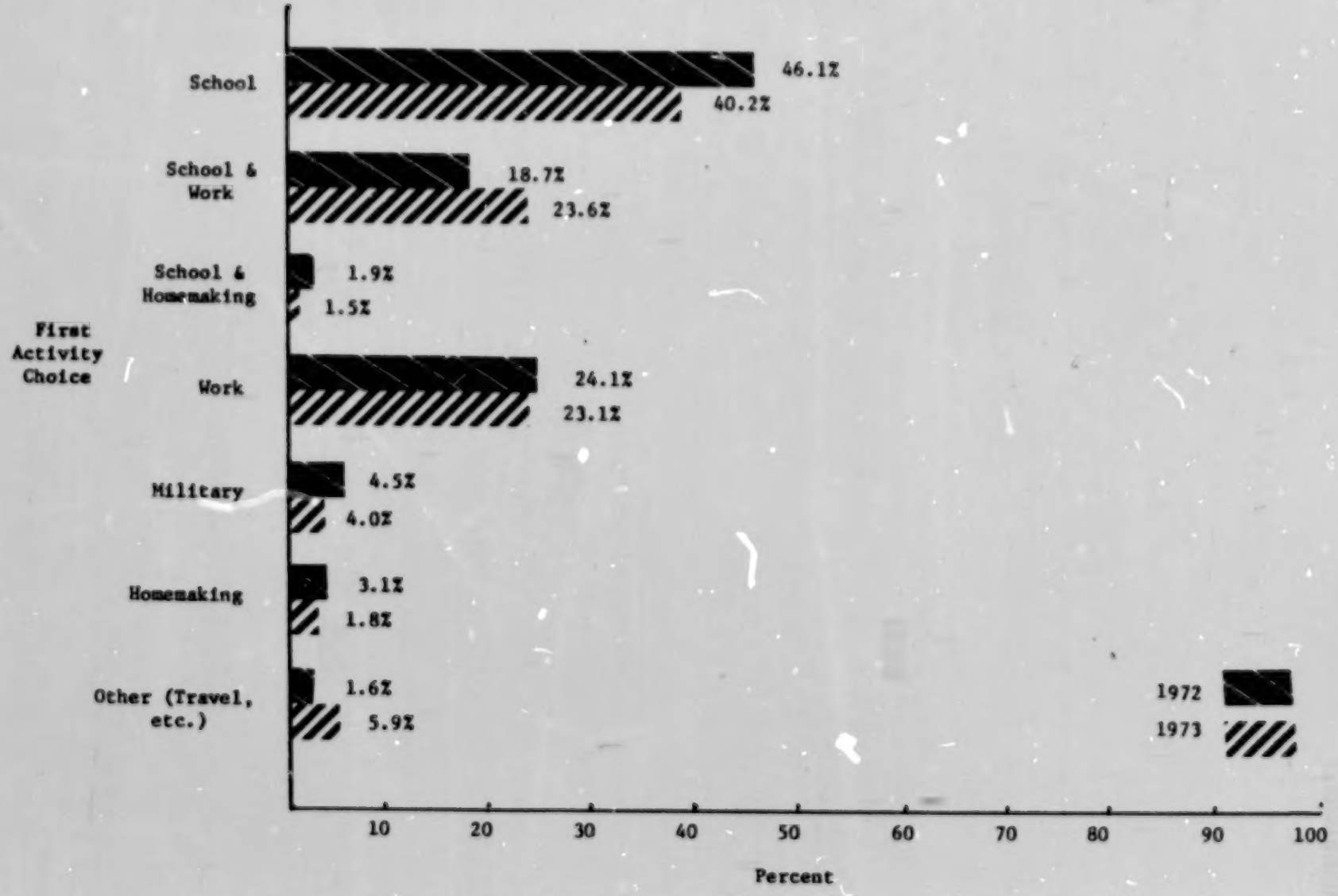
This report presents a summary of the major findings of the 1973 survey. Particular emphasis is placed upon shifts in student attitudes since the 1972 Post High School Plans Survey. A number of tables showing the results of the 1973 survey are provided in an appendix. The questionnaire is also reproduced for reference.

SUMMARY OF MAJOR FINDINGS

Analysis of the 1973 data indicates some interesting shifts in the attitudes and post-high school plans of Oregon high school seniors. Figure I shows the first choice post-high school activities of high school seniors in the classes of 1972 and 1973.

FIGURE I

FIRST CHOICE POST HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES
OF OREGON HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS



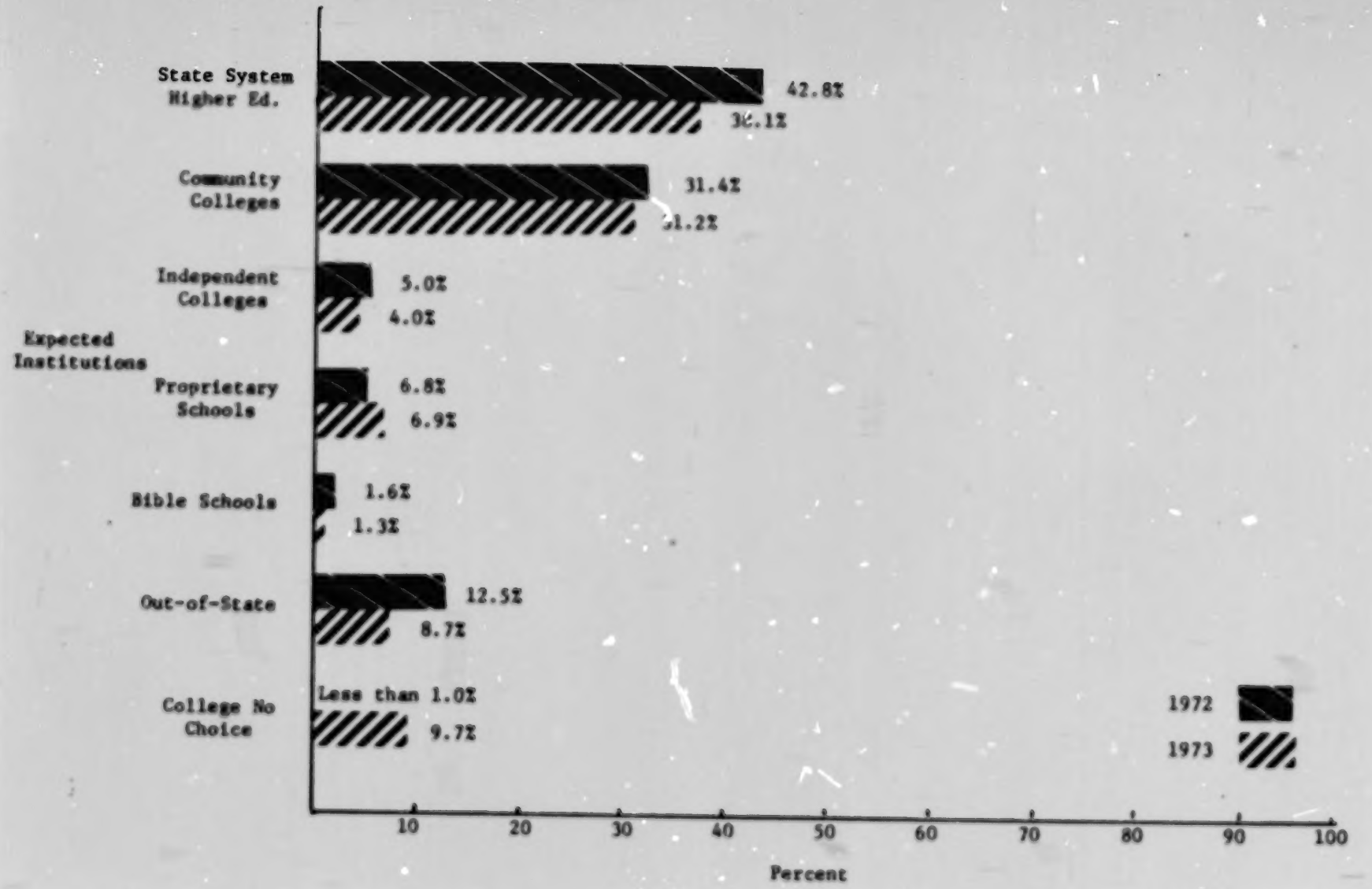
The most important shift is in the number of students indicating a desire to attend school on a full-time basis and the number of students expecting to attend school and work at the same time. The proportion of students expecting to attend school on a full-time basis decreases by six percentage points in 1973, while the proportion of students who plan to work and attend school increases by five percentage points. This shift may have a very significant effect on both the proportion of students in each of Oregon's educational segments and the FTE enrollment which will be generated by these students, since students who are working may not carry a full academic load. This shift also points up the critical need for programs of student financial aid, particularly the college work-study program.

Another interesting shift which can be noted in Figure I is the increase (about 5%) in the number of students indicating activity plans which were not included in the choices listed on the questionnaire. Most of these students listed travel or volunteer work as their planned post-high school activity. This would seem to indicate a change in life style or values of at least a small percentage of Oregon's high school seniors.

The preferences of high school seniors for particular types of schools as shown in Figure II also shows a major shift from 1972 to 1973. The number of students in the sample who indicated a school preference decreases sharply from 1972 to 1973. This decrease can be partially explained by changes in the wording on the 1973 questionnaire, but there is also some indication that students are not making their choice of a post-high school institution as early as in past years.

FIGURE II

EXPECTED POST HIGH SCHOOL INSTITUTION
OF OREGON HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS



The number of students expecting to attend all types of colleges except the proprietary schools decreases from 1972 to 1973. It is obvious that the pool of undecided students (9.7%) will probably raise the percentages for each of the major educational segments when they do make a firm school choice. Table A shows the relative percentage of students choosing each type of school when the undecided students are dropped from the computation.

TABLE A

EXPECTED TYPE OF POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTION
OF OREGON HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

(1973 data adjusted to exclude undecided students)

	1972	1973
	%	%
State System	42.8	42.2
Community Colleges	31.4	34.3
Independent Colleges	5.0	4.5
Proprietary Schools	6.8	7.6
Out-of-State	12.5	9.6
Bible Schools	1.6	1.5
	100.0	100.0

The figures in Table A are probably quite accurate if the assumption that undecided students will distribute themselves in the same manner as decided is made. Given this assumption, it can be seen that the greatest drop in school preferences is for out-of-state schools, and the only increases are for the community colleges and the proprietary schools.

The 1973 High School Plans Survey confirms the hypothesis that enrollments in all segments of postsecondary education are leveling off.

The slight growth which still seems to be taking place is concentrated in those institutions which emphasize career preparation programs. This trend can probably be explained by the emphasis which has been placed on career education in both elementary and secondary education programs, as well as the considerable coverage which has been given to youth unemployment in the press.

APPENDIX A

(TABLES A.1 THRU A.10)

RESULTS OF THE SURVEY OF 1973

OREGON HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

TABLE A.1

FIRST CHOICE ACTIVITY OF 1973 OREGON
HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS BY SEX

	Male	Female	Total
First Choice Activity	%	%	%
Work	25.4	20.7	23.1
School	40.0	40.5	40.2
Military	6.6	1.2	4.0
Homemaking	0.1	3.6	1.8
School and Homemaking	-0-	3.0	1.5
School and Work	22.1	25.1	23.6
Other	3.0	5.9	5.5
TOTAL	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	N = 12,634	N = 12,295	N = 24,929

TABLE A.2

FIRST ACTIVITY CHOICE OF 1973 OREGON
HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS BY CULTURAL ETHNIC GROUP

	American Indian	Black	Chicano	Oriental	White	Other	No Answer	Total
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Work	36.2	14.7	27.6	13.8	21.9	22.5	22.3	22.0
School	21.3	48.3	31.3	54.9	42.0	31.1	39.4	41.5
Military	6.4	2.1	5.2	1.6	3.9	5.9	2.2	3.9
Homemaking	2.6	0.7	1.0	1.6	1.8	2.0	1.4	1.8
School & Homemaking	3.0	-0-	1.0	0.8	1.5	1.5	1.8	1.5
School & Work	23.4	31.5	25.0	21.5	23.6	25.1	23.5	23.7
Other	7.2	2.8	8.9	5.7	5.1	12.1	9.4	5.6
TOTAL	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	N = 235	N = 143	N = 192	N = 246	N = 20,214	N = 614	N = 1,290	N = 22,934

TABLE A.3

FIRST ACTIVITY CHOICE OF 1973 OREGON HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS BY INVOLVEMENT IN CAREER PROGRAM

	Career Cluster Involvement			
	Enrolled	Not Enrolled	Don't Know	Total
Primary Activity	%	%	%	%
Work	28.6	18.8	25.3	23.1
School	30.8	48.0	34.9	40.2
Military	4.7	3.3	4.6	4.0
Homemaking	1.9	1.8	1.5	1.8
School and Homemaking	1.6	1.4	1.8	1.5
School and Work	26.5	21.2	25.1	23.6
Other	6.0	5.4	6.8	5.8
TOTAL	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	N = 8,104	N = 12,410	N = 3,886	N = 24,400

TABLE A.4

EXPECTED POST-HIGH SCHOOL INSTITUTION
OF 1973 OREGON HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS BY SEX

	Male	Female	Total
Type of Institution	%	%	%
State System of Higher Education	42.2	34.3	38.1
Oregon Community Colleges	31.5	31.0	31.2
Oregon Independent Colleges	3.9	4.2	4.1
Oregon Private Voc-Tech Schools	2.1	11.3	6.9
Out-of-State Schools	8.9	8.5	8.7
Oregon Bible Schools	0.9	1.7	1.3
No Choice	10.4	9.0	9.7
TOTAL	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	N = 8,556	N = 9,165	N = 17,721

TABLE A.5

EXPECTED POST-HIGH SCHOOL INSTITUTION OF
1973 OREGON HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS BY CULTURAL GROUP

	American Indian	Black	Chicano	Oriental	White	Other	No Answer	Total
Type of Institution	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
State System of Higher Education	28.4	45.7	40.6	50.2	38.6	33.8	39.1	38.6
Oregon Community Colleges	40.3	10.9	26.6	23.4	31.2	33.3	27.9	30.9
Oregon Independent Colleges	3.7	7.0	2.3	3.0	4.0	4.0	5.7	4.1
Oregon Private Voc-Tech Schools	9.0	8.5	9.4	4.0	7.0	5.1	4.8	6.9
Out-of-State Schools	9.0	14.0	7.0	9.5	8.4	14.2	12.4	8.8
Oregon Bible Schools	-0-	-0-	0.8	1.0	1.4	0.5	0.7	1.3
No Choice	9.7	14.0	13.3	9.0	9.4	9.1	9.4	9.5
TOTAL	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	N = 134	N = 129	N = 128	N = 201	N = 14,840	N = 429	N = 909	N = 16,770

TABLE A.6

EXPECTED POST-HIGH SCHOOL INSTITUTION OF 1973 OREGON HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS BY INVOLVEMENT IN CAREER PROGRAM

	Career Cluster Involvement			
	Enrolled	Not Enrolled	Don't Know	Total
Type of Institution	%	%	%	%
State System of Higher Education	33.1	42.0	35.3	38.2
Oregon Community Colleges	38.7	25.8	34.5	31.2
Oregon Independent Colleges	2.6	5.1	3.5	4.1
Oregon Private Voc-Tech Schools	9.4	5.3	6.9	6.8
Out-of-State Schools	6.7	10.2	7.8	8.7
Oregon Bible Schools	1.4	1.3	1.6	1.4
No Choice	8.1	10.3	10.4	9.6
TOTAL	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	N = 5,521	N = 9,286	N = 2,649	N = 17,456

TABLE A.7

EXPECTED POSTSECONDARY PROGRAM OF 1973
OREGON HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS BY SEX

	Male	Female	Total
Postsecondary Programs	%	%	%
Voc-Tech Programs			
Agriculture	5.9	0.8	3.3
Distributive Ed.	1.6	2.4	2.0
Health Occupations	0.9	9.6	5.4
Home Economics	0.1	2.3	1.2
Office Occupations	4.5	17.9	11.4
Technical	1.1	0.1	0.6
Trade & Industry	26.1	7.0	16.3
General Voc-Tech	0.5	0.8	0.6
SUB-TOTAL	40.5	41.0	40.8
Academic Programs			
Humanities	7.8	12.9	10.4
Education	4.1	10.0	7.1
Social Science	3.9	7.4	5.7
Professional	26.5	20.8	23.6
Science	14.8	4.8	9.6
Multi-Disciplinary	-0-	-0-	-0-
General Academic	2.3	3.2	2.8
SUB-TOTAL	59.5	59.0	59.2
TOTAL	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	N = 8,854	N = 9,378	N = 18,232

TABLE A.8

MOST IMPORTANT REASON FOR CHOOSING POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTION BY TYPE OF EXPECTED INSTITUTION

	State System of Higher Ed.	Oregon Community Colleges	Oregon Independent Colleges	Oregon Private Voc-Tech Schools	Out-of-State Schools	Oregon Bible Schools	No* Choice	Total
Reason for Choosing School	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Location of School	23.9	41.3	13.5	15.4	12.8	7.2	24.5	27.4
Low Cost	4.4	12.6	2.3	1.5	3.5	0.7	3.2	6.6
Short Program	1.2	7.2	0.2	19.8	2.1	0.7	3.5	4.4
Part-time Work Available	2.1	8.8	1.4	4.6	3.0	3.0	3.2	4.5
Reputation in My Field	49.6	19.0	67.1	50.1	57.8	77.6	43.2	41.3
Recognized Degree	4.7	2.2	4.8	5.2	5.4	2.2	5.0	4.0
Variety of Courses	10.9	6.1	6.2	1.2	9.1	1.7	14.4	8.4
Wishes of Parents	3.1	2.7	4.6	2.1	6.3	9.7	2.9	3.3
TOTAL	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	N = 4,685	N = 3,360	N = 438	N = 655	N = 811	N = 134	N = 278	N = 10,361

*These students had not decided on any single institution at the time of the survey.

TABLE A.9

MOST IMPORTANT REASON FOR DESIRING POST-HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION BY INVOLVEMENT IN CAREER CLUSTER PROGRAM

	Career Cluster Involvement			
	Enrolled	Not Enrolled	Don't Know	Total
Reason for Desiring	%	%	%	%
To Satisfy My Family	1.1	1.1	1.9	1.2
To Learn Skills to Improve My Earning Power	62.9	50.6	55.2	55.3
To Become a Better Citizen	0.6	0.9	0.7	0.8
To Learn Skills To Help Other People	17.7	23.2	18.9	20.8
To Become a More Cultured Person	4.6	6.8	5.7	5.9
Didn't Know What Else To Do	1.9	2.4	3.4	2.4
Other	11.1	15.0	14.1	13.6
TOTAL	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	N = 5,753	N = 9,226	N = 2,700	N = 17,679

TABLE A.10

MOST IMPORTANT REASON FOR NOT DESIRING POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION BY INVOLVEMENT IN CAREER CLUSTER PROGRAM

	Career Cluster Involvement			
	Enrolled	Not Enrolled	Don't Know	Total
Reason For Not Desiring	%	%	%	%
Expected to Enter Military	18.8	17.2	19.1	18.2
Have Enough Education for Want I Want to Do	24.8	19.6	17.4	21.2
Can't Afford To Go To School	13.9	14.1	15.2	14.2
Grades Are Too Low	4.0	4.9	7.8	5.1
Tired of School	17.8	21.9	20.9	20.1
Other	20.6	22.3	19.7	21.2
TOTAL	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	N = 2,000	N = 2,250	N = 910	N = 5,160

Class of 1973 Post High School Plans

Your responses to the following questions will be used for educational planning in Oregon. The survey is conducted each year by the Office of High School Relations of the Oregon State System of Higher Education in cooperation with the Educational Coordinating Council.

If you would like information from any school or college in Oregon that you might like to attend, please complete the request for information spaces on the reverse of this questionnaire.

Name ..... (10-35) Social Security Number □□□ □□ □□□□ (1-9)

Address ..... (36-55) City ..... (56-66) Zip □□□□□ (67-71)

High School ..... Office Use Only (72-76) Male □ (1) Female □ (5) (77)

Office Use Only

(10) 1. Please circle the number below which comes closest to what you expect to be doing this Fall following your graduation. (Do not write in summer work)

1. Work
2. School or College
3. Military
4. Homemaking
5. School or Homemaking
6. School and Work
7. Other (Specify) .....

(11) 2. Now please circle the number below which comes closest to what you will be doing in the Fall if you cannot follow the choice you indicated above.

1. Work
2. School or College
3. Military
4. Homemaking
5. School or Homemaking
6. School and Work
7. Other (Specify) .....

(12) 3. Are you enrolled in or have you completed a career cluster or vocational-technical program or course while in high school? (Circle appropriate number)

1. Yes
2. No
3. Don't know

(13-14) 4. If yes, what type of program or course was it? (Write in)

.....

(For example, metals, office occupations, health services, construction, etc.)

(15-16) 5. If you plan to attend school or college next year, what major field do you plan to pursue? (Write in)

.....

(For example, journalism, automotive technology, etc.)

(17-18) 6. What type of career do you expect to follow either next year or after you finish your education? (Write in)

.....

(For example, lawyer, plumber, housewife, etc.)

(19-20) 7. If you plan to attend school or college next year, please write in the name of the school that you expect to attend.

.....

If you wish to receive information from any schools in Oregon, please indicate the schools below along with your name and address. Please print.

School or College .....
Intended Major .....

Your Name .....
Address .....
City ..... Zip .....
High School .....

School or College .....
Intended Major .....

Your Name .....
Address .....
City ..... Zip .....
High School .....

Office Use Only

(21) 8. If you indicated the name of a school in question seven, please circle below the number of the most important reason why you chose this school.

1. The school is conveniently located
2. The school has low tuition and living expenses
3. The program can be completed in a short time
4. The school allows me to work part-time
5. The school has a good reputation in my field of intevest
6. The school offers a recognized degree or certificate
7. The school has a wide variety of courses
8. My parents would like me to attend this school
9. Other (Specify) .....

(22) 9. If you plan to attend school or college next year or any time in the future, please circle the number of the answer below that best describes your reason for additional schooling.

1. To satisfy my family
2. To learn skills to improve my earning power
3. To become a better citizen
4. To learn skills to help other people
5. To become a more cultured person
6. I don't know what else to do
7. Other (Specify) .....

(23) 10. If your first choice does not involve additional school or college, please circle the number of the answer below that best describes your reason for making this choice.

1. I expect to enter the military
2. I have enough education for what I want to do
3. I can't afford to go to school
4. My grades are too low to go to school
5. I'm tired of going to school
6. Other (Specify) .....

(24) 11. Please circle the number of the answer below which best describes the cultural group to which you belong.

1. American Indian
2. Black
3. Mexican-American/Chicano/ Other Spanish-speaking American
4. Oriental-American
5. White
6. Other (Specify) .....
7. I prefer to not answer the question

(25) 12. Please circle the number of the category below which best describes your father's education.

1. Less than high school
2. High school graduate
3. Some college
4. Vocational or business school
5. College graduate
6. Don't know

(26) 13. Please circle the number of the category below which best describes your mother's education.

1. Less than high school
2. High school graduate
3. Some college
4. Vocational or business school
5. College graduate
6. Don't know